SENATE JOURNAL

EIGHTIETH LEGISLATURE — REGULAR SESSION

AUSTIN, TEXAS

PROCEEDINGS

SIXTY-SECOND DAY

(Tuesday, May 15, 2007)

The Senate met at 11:25 a.m. pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the President.

The roll was called and the following Senators were present: Averitt, Brimer, Carona, Deuell, Duncan, Ellis, Eltife, Estes, Fraser, Gallegos, Harris, Hegar, Hinojosa, Jackson, Janek, Lucio, Nelson, Nichols, Ogden, Patrick, Seliger, Shapiro, Shapleigh, Uresti, Van de Putte, Watson, Wentworth, West, Whitmire, Williams, Zaffirini.

The President announced that a quorum of the Senate was present.

The Reverend Neal Terwilliger, First Baptist Church, Taylor, offered the invocation as follows:

"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth to all generations." (Psalms 100:4-5) Eternal God, we come before You today with praise and with thankful hearts. We ask Your hand of blessing to be upon this Senate today. May You give wisdom and guidance to all in attendance today, that they may continue to lead this great state to be a place of love, peace, and prosperity. Allow us to dwell together in unity and like-mindedness that Your favor may continue to shine upon us. May we bless You and not forget all Your benefits to us, Your children. Eternal Father, hear our prayers, we pray. Amen.

Senator Whitmire moved that the reading of the Journal of the proceedings of yesterday be dispensed with and the Journal be approved as printed.

The motion prevailed without objection.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 961

On motion of Senator Shapleigh, Senator Zaffirini will be shown as Co-author of SB 961.

CO-AUTHORS OF SENATE BILL 1292

On motion of Senator Nelson, Senators Carona, Estes, Harris, and Lucio will be shown as Co-authors of SB 1292.

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THE HOUSE HAS PASSED THE FOLLOWING MEASURES:

SCR 73, Congratulating Eric R. Bittner for his selection as a 2007 Fellow by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation.

SJR 20, Proposing a constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of additional general obligation bonds by the Texas Water Development Board to provide assistance to economically distressed areas.

THE HOUSE HAS CONCURRED IN SENATE AMENDMENTS TO THE FOLLOWING MEASURES:

HB 421 (137 Yeas, 0 Nays, 2 Present, not voting)

HB 716 (139 Yeas, 0 Nays, 2 Present, not voting)

HB 2683 (130 Yeas, 11 Nays, 2 Present, not voting)

THE HOUSE HAS REFUSED TO CONCUR IN SENATE AMENDMENTS TO THE FOLLOWING MEASURES AND REQUESTS THE APPOINTMENT OF A CONFERENCE COMMITTEE TO ADJUST THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO HOUSES:

HB 2261 (non-record vote)

House Conferees: Callegari - Chair/Aycock/Miles/O'Day/Taylor

Respectfully,

/s/Robert Haney, Chief Clerk House of Representatives

CONCLUSION OF MORNING CALL

The President at 11:30 a.m. announced the conclusion of morning call.

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 218 ON SECOND READING

Senator Fraser moved to suspend the regular order of business to take up for consideration CSHB 218 at this time on its second reading:

CSHB 218, Relating to requiring a voter to present proof of identification.

The motion prevailed by the following vote: Yeas 19, Nays 9.

Yeas: Averitt, Brimer, Carona, Deuell, Duncan, Eltife, Estes, Fraser, Harris, Jackson, Janek, Nelson, Nichols, Ogden, Patrick, Seliger, Shapiro, Wentworth, Williams.

Nays: Ellis, Gallegos, Hinojosa, Lucio, Shapleigh, Van de Putte, Watson, West, Zaffirini.

Absent: Hegar, Uresti, Whitmire.

The bill was read second time.

VERIFICATION OF VOTE

Senator Shapleigh called for a verification of the vote by which the regular order of business was suspended for CSHB 218.

The President instructed the Secretary of the Senate to call the roll.

The motion to suspend the regular order of business was lost by the following vote: Yeas 20, Nays 11. (Not receiving two-thirds vote of Members present)

Yeas: Averitt, Brimer, Carona, Deuell, Duncan, Eltife, Estes, Fraser, Harris, Hegar, Jackson, Janek, Nelson, Nichols, Ogden, Patrick, Seliger, Shapiro, Wentworth, Williams.

Nays: Ellis, Gallegos, Hinojosa, Lucio, Shapleigh, Uresti, Van de Putte, Watson, West, Whitmire, Zaffirini.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS SIGNED

The President announced the signing of the following enrolled bills and resolutions in the presence of the Senate after the captions had been read:

SB 453, SB 812, SB 883, SB 913, SB 978, SB 1229, SCR 74, SCR 78, HB 862, HB 864, HB 944, HB 1260, HB 1279, HB 1332, HB 1380, HB 1396, HB 1416, HB 1449, HB 1472, HB 1491, HB 1560, HB 1716, HB 1768, HB 1780, HB 1781, HB 1784, HB 1852, HB 1853, HB 1922, HB 1947, HB 1962, HB 1987, HB 2005, HB 2018, HB 2090, HB 2127, HB 2130, HB 2176, HB 2219, HB 2618, HB 2708, HB 2727, HB 2839, HB 3437, HCR 15, HCR 30, HCR 93, HCR 94.

(Senator Brimer in Chair)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 67 ON SECOND READING

On motion of Senator Ogden and by unanimous consent, the regular order of business was suspended to take up for consideration CSSJR 67 at this time on its second reading:

CSSJR 67, Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit the Texas Transportation Commission, subject to legislative review and approval, to designate the area adjacent to a state highway project as a transportation finance zone and dedicating the proceeds of the state sales and use taxes imposed in a transportation finance zone to the Texas Mobility Fund for certain purposes.

The resolution was read second time.

Senator Ogden offered the following amendment to the resolution:

Floor Amendment No. 1

Amend CSSJR 67 in SECTION 1 of the bill, in proposed Subsection (e-1), as follows:

- (1) On line 33, between "a" and "tax", insert "state"; and
- (2) On line 40, strike "shall" and insert "may".

The amendment to CSSJR 67 was read and was adopted by a viva voce vote.

All Members are deemed to have voted "Yea" on the adoption of Floor Amendment No. 1.